

in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 2:8. During this Ecclesiastical year of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST, an article headed The Witnesses of Christ, prepared by the writer of this article was published, in which this same fact that the apostles only could be the witnesses of Christ. In the same issue of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST in which that article appeared our dear and most worthy Editor in an editorial said that he differed with Brother Wampler and that in the future he would publish an article on the subject. Either the Editor has not had time, has forgotten, or perhaps from his extreme modesty has simply passed it by. Now dear brother I would rather stand corrected, and perhaps some of the readers of our valuable BRETHREN EVANGELIST would be glad to know the facts. Shall we be gratified?

All the signs of apostleship that Christ said they should possess were demonstrated by all that he chose for the authenticating, confirming, establishing and witnessing the truth that shall make us free, and thru which all his children become sanctified.

From the foregoing the kind reader will readily perceive that the writer does not attribute all the so-called modern, miraculous manifestations to divine omnipotence any further than they accord with divine laws, as revealed to our common humanity.

The Triune God, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, the great originator and creator of the heavens above, the earth beneath and of all natural things that exist, animate and inanimate has originated and established divine laws to govern the worlds, and all the creatures that dwell in them. Among these are the divine laws of life, health and preservation, and are universal relating to saint and sinner alike. A violation of said laws may bring as a penalty, sickness, pain, affliction and disease. A strict adherence to said laws with nature's remedies accompanied by the blessings of this great divine Law Maker and Giver properly administered by skillful physicians thus assisting nature to recuperate, and if nature with the several aids, and blessings of God attendant is not sufficiently strong to recuperate the person will die, whether he or she be a saint or sinner. From these premises and facts I believe that all healings universally are divine because they are in some way, and by some means brought about according to, and by the power of, and in consonance with the divine Law Giver. In the so-called modern, divine healing homes, such as Dr. Dowie's of Chicago, and others, they all teach and observe the laws of health, by making use of healthy food, proper exercise and getting their subjects to believe that they are well in many cases they succeed, but in as many perhaps they fail and the persons die. Dear reader beware, these are perilous times; no doubt there are false christs, false prophets, anti-christs, deceivers, boasters who say they are as good as Christ. Heady, high minded, proud and self-righteous. I say again beware. May the Lord give us discriminating power so

that we be not deceived and go not after them when they say, "Lo, here is Christ," or "Lo, he is there." Jesus said, "Believe them not." May the Lord abundantly bless his zion everywhere.

Blanco, Pa.

A GIGANTIC CONSPIRACY

Extracts from sermon by Martin Shively and reported by Ruby C. Nelson, Lathrop, California.

Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayst look on their nakedness. Hab. 2:15.

We will find that God is ever on the side of the weak and oppressed. He looks with favor upon the helpless widow and orphan children. He gives help and comfort to those under oppression. So, woe to those who oppress the widow, the fatherless and the poor, for God is on their side. It may seem that this gigantic conspiracy, this horrible traffic in rum, will always be the great power in the world as it is today, but at last it will be discovered that right is *right*, and right is *might*! For God is on the side of the weak and oppressed!

Consider for what this gigantic conspiracy exists, for we know it *does* exist. Whenever an institution is organized, we ask, "What is its purpose? or for what does it exist?" Does it exist for the benefit of the poor and the laborer? It takes the last dollar a poor working man has and gives him nothing in return, but leaves his family in rags and starvation. Does it exist for the elevation of mankind? It leaves a man in a gutter, it makes him vile and ferocious and takes away his manhood, dignity and self respect!

Suppose that I was an inhabitant of one of the planets and should come here to see a town. First we come to a butcher shop and seeing meat hanging inside I would ask what it meant. "That's where we have meats to sell, for the nourishment of our bodies," you would say. Then we would come to a dry goods store, and I would say, "What have you here and what's it for?" And you would say, "Why that is where we buy different materials for clothing, etc." And likewise the purposes of the clothier and shoe shop is explained to me. Then we come to a hardware store, and you say, "Well, you see, in tilling the soil we use mechanical appliances and machinery and here we may come and buy such things." Even the candy factory is satisfactorily explained. But when we come to a saloon, what can you say? For the saloon is really a part of this great conspiracy and for what does it exist?

The one great purpose for which it does exist is to make *money*. And it makes money by robbing the poor, by oppressing the weak. Its purposes are just the opposite of any I have named. Oh! the terrible greed in man's soul today that prompts him to make drunkards, widows and orphans,—to do anything, no matter how dishonorable, only that he may get his hands on the dirty dollar!

And the next question, who composes this

gigantic conspiracy? First, it is composed of a great many capitalists all over the country. It includes distillers and retail liquor dealers. They are in the business just simply because they can make money out of it. Then every man who votes a ticket that licenses the saloon is a member of it too. And last, the devil is an important member of it. I can think of no institution that has such an abominable purpose as it has, without associating the father of lies with it. He is the very author of the great traffic in rum,—the very creator of the great monster which sits behind the throne and threatens to ruin our country today!

Who wants this horrible traffic to go on and who want it stopped? The man who is filling his pockets by it, don't want it stopped. Neither does the "sport" or the "all-round tough." But the drunkard would like to have his oppressor overthrown. And the wives and mothers who are weeping and praying for husbands and sons, wouldn't they be glad to see the monster of rum crushed? And the church of God wants the monster chained. God is on the side of the weak and oppressed and is against the oppressors. "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink!"

THEOLOGY

W. J. HANNAN

In EVANGELIST No. 24, Brother Cassel says: "It is not an uncommon thing to hear some of our preachers propound one kind of theology in the morning and another kind in the evening of the same day."

We have never heard any thing of the kind from the pulpit, but some preachers have treated us to quite a variety of theological variations in other ways. Truly this ought not so to be; and we see no remedy except the one suggested by Brother C. in "Travel Notes."

Not long since we had the pleasure of reading an able article on the subject of faith, in which faith was compared to electricity, as generated from a power-house—driving machinery, street cars, etc. In accordance with this theory it is stated that works are the result of faith. The idea seems to be, that as cause and effect in our lives as Christians, faith is the cause and works the effect.

The theory may be true, in a sense, but the writer impairs its value by saying: "Works may exist without faith but true faith can not exist without works." This is equivalent to saying: "An effect may exist without a cause, but a true cause can not exist without an effect. That is, the electric cars may run without the electricity, but true electricity can not exist without running the cars. See? The opposite is nearer the truth.

Again in another article we have: "Anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up." James 5:14. I am ready to believe, says